Utility of the Lok Adalats

1769. SHRI RAMJI LAL:
SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Lok Adalats have been useful in reducing the work of Courts and speedy disposal of its work; if so, to what extent;

(b) whether keeping in view the utility of Lok Adalats, Government would increase the number of Lok Adalats; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c) Lok Adalats are useful to reduce the work load of the courts. Earlier to 9.11.1995, it was on voluntary basis. Now the Lok Adalats have statutory basis. From 2nd October, 1996 and upto 31st December, 1996, 4,450 Lok Adalats were held and 4,30,076 cases have been disposed of.

Attempts are being made to persuade the State Governments to constitute the State and District Legal Services Authorities and Taluk Legal Services Committees. After constitution of these Authorities, more Lok Adalats would be organised. At present, Lok Adalats are systematically organised and in most of the States, it has become a regular features to supplement the court work.

Speedy disposal of civil cases in the High Courts

1770. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state what are the mechanism planned for speedy disposal of civil cases pending for years together in High Courts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): A proposal for the amendment of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 and the Limitation Act, 1963 for speedy disposal of pending cases in various courts including the High Courts, is under consideration of the Government and a Bill in this regard may be brought soon before the Parliament.

Restrictions on Public Interest Litigations

1771. SHRI SANATAN BISI:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to impose any restrictions on Public Interest Litigations (PILs);

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, in what way Government propose to contain "judicial activism" in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c) No sir, Public Interest Litigation has, to some extent, helped the poor and under-privileged in getting justice.

Creation of 50 new posts of judges for high courts

1772. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to create fifty new posts of judges in different High Courts of the country is under consideration with Government;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even after creating 50 new posts of judges, the pending cases of the court will not be cleared; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c) The present sanctioned strength of 18 High Courts in the country is 571 permanent/Additional Judges. As on

1.3.97, there were 501 permanent/ Additional Judges in position in these High Courts, leaving 70 posts of permanent/Additional Judges to be filled up. It has been decided to create 44 new posts of permanent/Additional Judges in different High Courts with effect from the dates these posts are actually filled up. When the vacant posts and newly created posts of judges in High Courts are filled up, there would be a significant reduction in pendency of cases.

गुजरात में कुटुंब न्यायालयों की स्थापना

1773. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी:** क्या **विधि और न्याय** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या कुटुंब न्यायालय अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत गुजरात में अभी तक किसी कुटुंब न्यायालय की स्थापना की गयी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इस न्यायालय में अभी तक निपटाये गये मामलों की जिला-वार कुल संख्या कितनी है;

(घ) राज्य में प्रतिवर्ष उक्त न्यायालय में दर्ज कराये गये पारिवारिक मामलों की औसत संख्या कितनी है;

(ङ) क्या पारिवारिक मामलों में उत्तरोत्तर वृद्धि को देखते हुए सरकार राज्य में और अधिक कुटुंब न्यायालय स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय के राज्यमंत्री (श्री रमाकान्त डी० खलप): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) से (च) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Pending cases in the High Courts and the Supreme Court

1774. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of cases are lying pending awaiting judgement in various High Courts and Supreme Court in the country;

(b) if so, what was the total number of such cases at the end of December, 1996; and

(c) what is the number of those cases out of the above which are lying pending awaiting judgement for five years or more?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) to (c):—

	No. of cases pending as on 31.12.1996	No. of cases pending over five years
Sureme Court		
Admission Matters	6,660	1,382 (As on 1.3.1996)
Regular Hearing Matters	16,586	9,784 (As on 1.3.1996)
High Courts	30,30,669*	10,73,431*

*Provisional figures